

DOUBTS ABOUT NAVY

OPINIONS DIFFER AS TO THE TYPE OF VESSELS THAT IS MOST NEEDED.

WAR'S LESSONS UNCERTAIN

Battle Cruisers Are Strongly Urged by Some Naval Experts and Congressmen—Comparative Values of Dreadnaughts and Submarines in Debate.

By GEORGE CLINTON.

Washington.—The difficultly of constructing legislation in framing a program of opinion as to what type of vessels shall be built in order that the best naval protective service may be secured for the country.

It may be that the ship building program will be attacked not because it is too ambitious, but because the vessels provided for do not meet, as some senators, representative and navy men who are the requirements of the case.

It is held that the present war has not produced conclusive proof that one type of ship must be done away with and another type substituted. Some of the navy men urge, and some congressmen hold the same view, that the type of ship is an alternative necessity, but while this is so, they say, it is not necessary to supplant other classes of ships.

The battle cruiser is a fast steaming, fighting ship. It is the peer of the battleship in its offensive power, and its defensive strength, and it outstrips any battleship afloat.

Breadth versus Submarines. In the senate there is a controversy over the comparative values of dreadnaughts and submarines. Most of the members of the senate committee on naval affairs seem to think that big battleships are more necessary than submarines, while the belief is that the chairman of the committee thinks submarines have made the most important contribution to the war.

Chief attention should be paid to the construction for the American navy of plenty of under-the-sea boats.

All these differences of opinion must be thrashed out and the chances are that the final decision will be made by the judgment of the majority of the naval experts has been taken. It is a fact, however, that the naval experts of the present warfare should be at variance in their views as to just what kind of ships will best adapted to meet conditions of the future.

A difference of opinion some years old has been renewed because of the "good" of the first fight between the Germans in southern waters and the English ship Good Hope and the smaller vessels which were with it. The Germans sank the Good Hope and either destroyed or drove away the smaller ships. American naval experts say that it is known that the "good" of the Good Hope was unable to use its heavier guns effectively because a high sea was running and the sounding ship made accuracy of aim impossible.

Fighting in Heavy Seas. Eight years ago an article was written by a naval expert in which he said that under certain conditions of weather some of our ships would be useless in a fight. He singled out one of our cruisers and said that if it were compelled to engage in battle while anything more than a moderate sea was running it could not use its big guns. The argument was that the "good" of this type was built along wrong lines. It is hinted today that the American navy there are several ships which would meet the fate of the Good Hope if they were compelled to fight while a high sea was running, and, of course, if their armaments were more stable than those of the Good Hope.

It seems likely that the question of stability of certain types of ships in all kinds of weather will enter into the debates in congress.

Conditions in British Army. Within a day or two in Washington there have been issued an "article of information" some facts concerning the condition of the British forces of all kinds at the outbreak of the present war. Unquestionably the object of this article is to help the propaganda for an increased regular force in this country as opposed to a plan which would place much dependence upon bodies of partially trained men like the militia and continental army of reserves.

The article, however, has much interest as showing actually the conditions which existed in the ranks of the English territorials and the home known as the special reserves at the time of the outbreak of the war.

When your correspondent was in England some months ago he had an opportunity to visit the training camps. The new strength to know that England, even when the war had been in progress for more than half a year, was largely in the same condition with regard to trained soldiers that the United States is today. He noted the sharp difference between the men of the British regular army, of the territorials and of the special reserves.

There was also in England a force known as the army reserve. This army reserve, as the article just given out in Washington, was a force of men who had been trained in the regular army and who after their terms of enlistment had expired had gone into the reserve organization.

The situation in Great Britain there.

Ferns Not Popular. Of the 200 species of fern native to this country a few have become more or less serious weed pests. The most troublesome are the hay-scented fern and brake. According to a recent bulletin of the department of agriculture, cutting off the tops close to the soil surface twice a year for two years will kill out nearly all ferns. The best times to do the cutting are just previous to spring, or about the middle of June and the middle of August.

Qualified. Merchant.—What we want is a man to put the blame on when a customer complains—one who is able to take a scolding without giving any talk back.

Applicant.—I'm your man, sir. I've been married ten years.

New Use for Gasoline. Apparatus has been invented for measuring gasoline into illuminating gas and storing it for safe use in places where commercial gas supplies are not available.

Confidential. Avoval. "I'm married to a fellow for you to marry my eldest daughter. You say 'Thank you, sir. I did not venture to hope.'"

"That I would give such ready consent."

"Why—er—yes, sir."

"You tell a fellow that you are about to become a member of the family, I don't mind telling you that the attitude of the father of six marriageable daughters is one of watchful waiting."

Young Efficiency Expert. Caller.—Your son Willie has got a job as office boy. How is he getting on?

Fond Mother.—Splendidly. He already knows who ought to be discharged, and is merely waiting to get promoted so that he can attend to it.

PORTUGAL IN WAR

GERMANY HANDS PASSPORTS TO PORTUGUESE MINISTER AT BERLIN.

REFUSED TO RELEASE SHIPS

Declaration Enumerates Long Series of Breaches of Neutrality—Military Clashes in South Africa Cited—Permitted English to Use Ports.

Berlin, March 11.—Germany declared war on Portugal at 12:30 o'clock Wednesday afternoon and handed his passports to the Portuguese minister.

This action was forewarned when a semi-official report declared that an ultimatum had been sent to Portugal demanding the immediate release of the German ships. The handing of his passports to the Portuguese ambassador in Berlin was given as the action that would follow a refusal to comply with the imperial demands.

The declaration enumerates a long series of breaches of neutrality by the Portuguese government, such as the permission of free passage to English troops through the colony of Mozambique, the permission given English men-of-war to use Portuguese ports for the coaling and given neutral, and the permission given the English navy to use Madeira as a naval base.

Actual engagements between Portuguese and German troops on the frontier of German Southwest Africa and Angola and French insults to the German ambassador by members of the Portuguese parliament, who were never reprimanded, are also cited.

The declaration states that, according to the treaty between the two nations, the seizure should have been preceded by an agreement regarding the price to be paid the owners and that the seizure was only justifiable in case of public necessity in Portugal, whereas the tonnage of the ships was evidently larger than that needed to remedy the scarcity of the tonnage at Portugal's disposal. It is further stated that the Portuguese government did not even try to enter into communication with the German owners or the German government.

The Portuguese government by these acts openly gave evidence that Portugal considers herself England's vassal, for whom England's interests and wishes are paramount in comparison with other considerations.

The declaration continues: "The Portuguese government seized the ships in a fashion which must be considered as an intentional provocation of Germany. The German flag was hauled down on board the ships and the Portuguese flag, with the emblem of a star, was hoisted in its place."

Lisbon, March 11.—Large numbers of German residents are leaving Portugal as a result of notices given by the German consul that they must quit the country as soon as possible.

Military Strength of Portugal. Peace establishment of active army is about 20,000.

All available, including active army, reserves and territorials, estimated from 200,000 to 400,000.

The navy consists of one old battleship, five protected cruisers and about thirty smaller vessels.

J. E. WATSON ADMITS DEFEAT

Harry S. New Leads Indiana Senate Race by 8,202 Votes—Goodrich and Adair Increase Leads.

Indianapolis, Ind., March 11.—With 2,784 of the 3,177 precincts of the grand election with Harry S. New leading by 8,202 votes, word was received Thursday from James E. Watson that he admitted he had been defeated on the first choice votes in Tuesday's primary for the Republican nomination for United States senator.

James P. Goodrich and John A. M. Adair continued to increase their leads in the contests for the nomination for governor on the Republican and Democratic tickets, respectively. Their combinations were conceded by their opponents.

Most of Them Raw Recruits. "Some of the members of this troop have had experience in militia organizations, and some have had the rudiments of military education in preparatory schools or colleges, but the majority are absolutely raw recruits who have to be told how to stand up straight, how to make a 'right face,' how to salute, not to say how to execute the manual of arms, and keep their places in drill formation, aim a rifle, mount a horse and ride at a walk without falling off."

"Some half dozen of this troop are beyond the age of active military service, but these men figure out that in case of war they would have a smattering of military knowledge sufficient to make them available for use, perhaps in training the recruits, perhaps in duty at the war department, or in one of the military arms of the service."

"Most of the men are between the ages of twenty-five and thirty-five. It is planned that when their course of two years shall be completed they will take examinations for commissioned officers to be called upon by the war department in case of necessity. Up to the present time it is interesting and significant to note that this troop has not had a single purely social meeting. The men are all hard-working and busy citizens throughout the week."

The British government pays Queen Alexandra an annuity of \$350,000.

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ROUSING THE COUNTRY

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HOUSE KILLS MEASURE NEW WAR SECRETARY

WILSON WARNING RESOLUTION IS DEFEATED.

N. D. BAKER OF CLEVELAND SUCCEEDS GARRISON.

Big Victory for President Wilson When the Measure is Tabled.

Washington, March 9.—The house of representatives capitulated completely to the Wilson administration. By two test votes early in the day it showed its confidence in President Wilson and on Tuesday night it crowned a day of chaos and confusion by tabling the new famous McLeane resolution, warning Americans of armed ships, by a vote of 276 to 142.

The first test resulted in a victory for the administration adherents, 256 to 160, and the second resulted in 271 votes for the Wilson policy against 138 opposing. Both votes were on parliamentary phases of the situation, but they clearly forecasted the vote that was to come in the evening.

Warnings that no nation "divided against itself shall stand" were repeated in solemn silence. Exhortations of American citizens whose "foolhardiness and recklessness" in traveling on belligerent ships might "plunge the country into war" were cheered.

The final argument and appeal which aroused the house most was the demand that the subject Mr. Tamm be behind the president in his fight.

To this plea the big membership on the floor and the crowd which overflowed the galleries and corridors rose with cheers and applause.

Sweden's Peace Plan. Stockholm, March 10.—The first chamber has rejected a proposal recently made that the rigidly invite the government to consider the summing, through Scandinavian or through Swedish initiative, of a conference of neutral powers for the purpose of formulating plans to prepare for a lasting peace. In the course of the debate on the subject Mr. Trygger, one of the party leaders, declared that such a conference would be more harmful than useful and would be likely to destroy the desire which Sweden now entertains of an early peace.

Uncle Sam's "Conscience Fund" Is Made Richer by \$30,000 Mailed From New York.

Washington, March 10.—The treasury department's "conscience fund" recently made richer by \$30,000. It was the largest sum ever contributed to the fund. The money came in a letter dated Philadelphia, but postmarked New York. The writer stated that it was to return money stolen many years ago. The letter failed to say how or where the money was stolen.

McMURDER CHANGES HIS MIND

North Dakota Senator Withdraws His Resolution Warning Americans Off Armed Ships—Tells Why.

Washington, March 10.—Senator McMurder brought his resolution warning Americans off armed ships before the senate and then withdrew it because, he said, there were very strong indications of a settlement of the U-boat controversy without congressional action.

Senator McMurder read a brief statement saying that in view of the fact that the resolution was purported to be an authoritative statement from Secretary of State Lansing that Americans were to be indirectly but effectively warned off armed ships, he considered the purpose of his and the Gore resolution accomplished.

Wisconsin Student Must Face Trial for Death of Girl at Lake Forest, Ill.

Chicago, March 8.—William H. Orpet, University of Wisconsin student, indicted on Monday for the murder of Marian Frances Lambert, the Lake Forest high-school girl whose body was found in Helm's woods.

Mrs. Hefflin Dies.

This One Breaks Record.

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Austrian Ships for Turks.

Rome, March 11.—Two of the most powerful of Austria's dreadnaughts are being prepared in Dalmatian ports, the Tribune says, with the intention of forcing the allies' blockade of the Adriatic in order to reach the Dardanelles.

Kills Wife and Himself.

Matagorda, Tex., March 9.—P. K. Ginetis attempted to shoot his son. Ginetis was killed by the bullet, and in an official statement from the Austin war office, telegraphed here on Wednesday.

Villa Holds Three Americans.

Columbia, N. M., March 10.—With three American cattlemen presumably held as prisoners, Francisco Villa was reported with between 200 and 300 men at a point on the Boca Grande river, in Chihuahua.

More Water in Beer.

London, March 9.—The brewers' society has decided to curtail the manufacture of beer in compliance with the intimation of the government that consumption of malt, sugar and hops by the trade should be reduced.

Dynamiter Gets Life Term.

Windsor, Ont., March 9.—Charles Respa was convicted of dynamiting Canadian buildings at Sandwich, Ont. The jury was out 15 minutes. Respa was sentenced to life imprisonment. Respa was convicted on three charges.

BOWS TO LAW OF SEAS

GERMANY TO YIELD IF GREAT BRITAIN HEEDS INTERNATIONAL RULES.

APPEALS TO U. S. FRIENDSHIP

Bernstorff Presents New Memorandum to Secretary Lansing Explaining Berlin's Views of Submarine Controversy—England Blamed.

Washington, March 10.—Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, on instructions from his government, handed to Secretary Lansing on Wednesday a long memorandum explaining in detail the German position in regard to armed merchant ships and the causes leading up to the decision of the central European powers to torpedo without warning all armed merchant ships of their enemies.

The memorandum contains the allegation that Great Britain had taken advantage of the contention of the United States that Americans must be safe on defensively armed merchantmen, to have those ships attacked offensively by enemy submarines.

The German government expresses a willingness to operate its submarines in accordance with international law prevailing prior to the war, provided Great Britain does not violate the same laws.

The German government concedes that as submarines are a new engine of warfare, international law as at present constituted makes no provision for their use.

The memorandum contends that the evidence appended to the late German announcement proves that British ships armed offensively for defense have been instructed to act, and have acted offensively, and that they are not peaceful traders, as the United States was assured they would be by Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, the British ambassador.

The memorandum also reiterates the previous declaration that submarine warfare was begun by Germany in reprisal for the announced intention of Great Britain to starve the civilian population of the central empire.

The memorandum also refers to the long-standing friendship between the United States and Germany, and expresses the hope that the American people, when familiar with the explanation offered, fully appreciate the position in which Germany finds herself as a result of the blockade.

By way of supporting the contention that Germany's reprisals are justified, the memorandum enumerates various actions of Great Britain, which have operated against the interests of neutrals and their citizens. These are cited to show that Great Britain has violated international law.

STEEL FIRMS ARE INDICTED

E. H. Gary of U. S. Company and Six Corporations Named in Ohio Inquiry—Wage Trust Is Alleged.

Youngstown, O., March 9.—Indictments were returned on Wednesday by the Mahoning county grand jury against the Youngstown Sheet and Tube company, the Republic Iron and Steel company, the Brier Hill Steel company, the Youngstown Iron and Steel company and E. H. Gary, executive chairman of the United States Steel company. The defendants are charged with having formed a trust to fix the wages of common labor in violation of the laws of Ohio. These indictments followed a sweeping investigation of the East Youngstown riots and labor troubles in January.

Indictments were returned also against E. H. Gary, W. H. Cunningham and six other persons, who are charged with conspiracy to defraud the wages of common labor in violation of the laws of Ohio. These indictments followed a sweeping investigation of the East Youngstown riots and labor troubles in January.

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RULING GIVEN ON CLUBS OF STATE

LODGES AND FRATERNAL CLUBS MUST SECURE LICENSE IF LIQUOR IS TO BE SERVED.

OPINION OF ATTORNEY-GENERAL

Only "Locker Clubs" Where Members Buy Individual Supplies, May Operate Without License.

Western Newspaper Union News Service. Columbus.—The state liquor licensing board planned to nullify scores of fraternal clubs and lodges in Ohio cities that they must either close serving liquor to members or take out state licenses and pay the usual \$1,000 fee. This action was based on a ruling of Atty. Gen. Turner that only so-called "locker clubs" whose members buy individually supplies of liquor to be kept at the club subject to their orders may operate without being licensed under the Ohio law. Clubs which buy wholesale quantities of liquor to be dispensed to their members by the ticket coupon or "charge account" system are subject to the state license law, the attorney general declared.

Payments Are Illegal. In a report by Examiner H. D. Waddell, filed with the state bureau of accountancy, the financial affairs of Norwood are reviewed. There are no findings for recovery, but it is found that large payments have been made illegally for materials. Restoration is left to the judgment of local officials. That the city received the material is not questioned, but the methods of purchase are criticized as being in disregard of the law. The largest item is for crushed stone for street repairs, more than \$1,000 being used each month. The total amount is \$8,337.44. The contract is called defective and the surety insufficient. The split voucher system appears to have been employed in avoiding the